



**TENNESSEE**  
**STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
DIVISION OF SPECIAL EDUCATION  
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**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Special Education Supervisors  
Disability Eligibility Assessment Personnel

**FROM:** Ann Sanders-Eakes

**DATE:** August 22, 2007

**SUBJECT:** Revisions in Disability Eligibility Standards

All revisions for the disability eligibility standards (with the exception of Specific Learning Disabilities) received final approval from the Board of Education on 8-10-07. Due to the significant and complex changes in the federal Definition, the proposed standards for Specific Learning Disabilities are receiving further review and editing for clarification at the Department. The revised Specific Learning Disabilities standards will be placed before the Board of Education in early November for final approval. Until that time, please continue to follow procedures established and approved for assessment of Specific Learning Disabilities currently in place (July 2002). I am attaching the revised disability standards (8-10-07) so that you may review and study revisions made in the disability definitions and procedures for assessment. The approved revisions of the disability eligibility standards are posted on the Special Education Assessment web page at <http://www.state.tn.us/education/speced/>.

Web Ex Conference times to review and discuss changes made in the disability standards have been scheduled for 10:00 a.m. CST - September 7 and 10:00 a.m. CST – September 10. Details of how to access these conference calls will be sent in a separate email.

If there are any questions you need answered before the Web Ex Training, please contact Ann Sanders-Eakes at [Ann.Sanders@state.tn.us](mailto:Ann.Sanders@state.tn.us). Questions pertaining to the proposed Specific Learning Disabilities Standards (specifically guidance for establishing a Responsiveness to Intervention-RTI Model for identifying students with learning disabilities) should be directed to Kathy Strunk at [Kathy.Strunk@state.tn.us](mailto:Kathy.Strunk@state.tn.us).